REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 5-8 are amended. No new matter is added.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Fields in the March 26, 2007 telephone interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

In the Office Action, claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,122,379 to Barbir. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 5-7 are amended for clarity and to remedy minor informalities noted during Applicants' review. In particular, claim 5 is amended to depend from claim 4 and claims 6-7 are amended to remedy minor antecedent informalities.

Independent claim 1 is directed to a device for compressing and encrypting data in which a compressor compresses original data with reference to a reference table; an encryptor for encrypting the reference table or information necessary to reconstruct the reference table; and a multiplexor that multiplexes the compressed data and the encrypted data obtained from the encryptor to create multiplexed data that is output.

Independent claim 8 is amended for clarity and relates to a device for reproducing data by decompressing and decrypting multiplexed data, comprising, *inter* alia, a demultiplexor for extracting compressed data which is a compressed result obtained by compressing the original data, and encrypted data which is an encrypted result obtained by encrypting a reference table to be referenced when performing data compression of the compressed data (to achieve compression of the original data), from input multiplexed data; a decoder for obtaining the reference table by decoding the encrypted data; and a decompressor for referencing the reference table to decompress the compressed data.

Independent claims 12 and 13 are method claims corresponding to claims 1 and 8, respectively and independent claims 14 and 15 are storage medium claims corresponding to claims 1 and 8, respectively.

As set forth in Applicants' background, as data quantity increases, the amount of processing time expended to ensure safe encryption results in a significantly increased processing time or CPU load in proportion to the data size. Similar problems are faced by decryption. The device of independent claim 1 achieves dramatically reduced processing time (see Applicants' page 10, lines 6-25) while ensuring security by compressing original data and encrypting the reference table or information necessary to reconstruct the reference table used for the compression of the original data, such as Huffman encoding. The combination of compressed data and encrypted reference table data are multiplexed. Thus, regardless of the size of the original data, only a small reference table needs encryption in order to secure the data.

As discussed and agreed upon during the telephone interview, Barbir achieves compression and encryption of the original data using a compression/encryption table (Col. 5, line 66), but fails to teach or suggest that the table itself (or information necessary to reconstruct the table) is encrypted. Barbir also fails to teach multiplexing of compressed data and encrypted reference table information as recited in independent claims 1, 12 and 14.
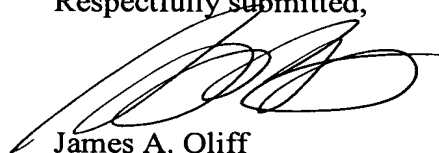
As also discussed and agreed upon, Barbir fails to teach or suggest a demultiplexor for extracting compressed data and encrypted data which is an encrypted result obtained by encrypting a reference table to be referenced when performing data compression of the compressed data as recited in independent claim 8. Similarly, Barbir fails to teach or suggest restoring a reference table to be referenced when carrying out data decompression by decoding the encrypted data as recited in independent claims 13 and 15.

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Because Babir fails to teach each and every feature of independent claims 1, 8, and 12-15, these claims are not anticipated by Barbir. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-15 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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